

## General Assembly

Raised Bill No. 244

February Session, 2000

LCO No. 1011

Referred to Committee on Select Committee on Aging

Introduced by: (AGE)

## An Act Reestablishing The Department On Aging.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (NEW) (a) There is established a Department on Aging 2 which shall be under the direction and supervision of the 3 Commissioner on Aging who shall be appointed by the Governor in 4 accordance with the provisions of sections 4-5 to 4-8, inclusive, of the 5 general statutes, as amended, with the powers and duties therein 6 prescribed. The commissioner shall be knowledgeable and experienced 7 with respect to the conditions and needs of elderly persons and shall 8 serve on a full-time basis.
- 9 (b) The Commissioner on Aging shall administer all laws under the 10 jurisdiction of the Department on Aging and shall employ the most 11 efficient and practical means for the provision of care and protection of 12 elderly persons. The commissioner shall have the power and duty to 13 do the following: (1) Administer, coordinate and direct the operation 14 of the department; (2) adopt and enforce regulations, in accordance 15 with chapter 54 of the general statutes, as necessary to implement the 16 purposes of the department as established by statute; (3) establish rules 17 for the internal operation and administration of the department; (4)

18 establish and develop programs and administer services to achieve the 19 purposes of the department; (5) contract for facilities, services and 20 programs to implement the purposes of the department; (6) act as 21 advocate for the need of more comprehensive and coordinated 22 programs for elderly persons; (7) assist and advise all appropriate 23 state, federal, local and area planning agencies for elderly persons in 24 the performance of their functions and duties pursuant to federal law 25 and regulation; (8) plan services and programs for elderly persons; (9) 26 coordinate outreach activities by public and private agencies serving 27 elderly persons; and (10) consult and cooperate with area and private 28 planning agencies.

- (c) The functions, powers, duties and personnel of the Division of Elderly Services of the Department of Social Services shall be transferred to the Department on Aging pursuant to the provisions of section 4-38d and 4-38e of the general statutes.
  - (d) Any order or regulation of the Department of Social Services or the Commission on Aging which is in force on July 1, 1999, shall continue in force and effect as an order or regulation until amended, repealed or superseded pursuant to law.
- 37 Sec. 2. (NEW) (a) The Department on Aging shall continuously 38 study the conditions and needs of elderly persons in this state in 39 relation to nutrition, transportation, home-care, housing, income, 40 employment, health, recreation and other matters. It shall be 41 responsible, in cooperation with federal, state, local and area planning 42 agencies on aging, for the overall planning, development and 43 administration of a comprehensive and integrated social service 44 delivery system for elderly persons and the aged. The department 45 shall: (1) Measure the need for services; (2) survey methods of 46 administration of programs for service delivery; (3) provide for 47 periodic evaluations of social services; (4) maintain technical, 48 information, consultation and referral services in cooperation with 49 other state agencies to local and area public and private agencies to the

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fullest extent possible; (5) develop and coordinate educational outreach programs for the purposes of informing the public and elderly persons of available programs; (6) cooperate in the development of performance standards for licensing of residential and medical facilities with appropriate state agencies; (7) supervise the establishment, in selected areas and local communities of the state, of pilot programs for elderly persons; (8) coordinate with the Department of Transportation to provide adequate transportation services related to the needs of elderly persons; and (9) cooperate with other state agencies to provide adequate and alternate housing for elderly persons, including congregate housing, as defined in section 8-119e of the general statutes. Subject to the provisions of chapter 67 of the general statutes, the Department on Aging may employ such clerical and other assistance as it requires to carry out its duties.

- (b) The Department on Aging shall be the single state agency for the administration, monitoring and coordination of programs for elderly persons and the aged pursuant to any state or federal law or regulation, except as otherwise provided in the general statutes or as required by federal law as a prerequisite to federal reimbursement or grants.
- Sec. 3. (NEW) (a) The Department on Aging may receive, hold, invest and disburse money, securities, supplies or equipment offered it for any of its purposes by the federal government or by any person, corporation or association. The department may, within the limits of funds available to it from state appropriations or otherwise, enter into agreements with federal agencies for programs to help older persons in the field of community planning, services and training or otherwise, as is or may be authorized under federal law. The department shall include in its annual report an account of any property so received, the names of its donors, its location, the use made thereof and the amount of unexpended balances on hand.
- 81 (b) The Department on Aging may contract with any public or

- 82 private agency or person to provide services for the elderly.
- Sec. 4. Section 17b-420 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:
- 85 (a) There is established a Commission on Aging within the 86 Department on Aging to advocate on behalf of elderly persons on 87 issues and programs of concern to the elderly including, but not 88 limited to, health care, nutrition, housing, employment, transportation, 89 legal assistance and economic security. The commission shall be 90 composed of eleven voting members who are knowledgeable about 91 areas of interest to the elderly to be appointed as follows: Five by the 92 Governor, one by the president pro tempore of the Senate, one by the 93 speaker of the House of Representatives, one by the majority leader of 94 the Senate, one by the majority leader of the House of Representatives, 95 one by the minority leader of the Senate and one by the minority 96 leader of the House of Representatives. The initial appointments to the 97 commission shall be made by August 15, 1993. The initial term for 98 three of the members appointed by the Governor and the members 99 appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, majority leader 100 of the House of Representatives and minority leader of the Senate shall 101 expire August 15, 1997, and the initial term for two of the members 102 appointed by the Governor and the members appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives, majority leader of the Senate and 103 104 minority leader of the House of Representatives shall expire August 105 15, 1995. Thereafter, all members shall be appointed for a term of four 106 years from August fifteenth in the year of their appointment. Members 107 shall be limited to two consecutive terms. The commission shall 108 include the following ex-officio nonvoting members: The chairpersons 109 and ranking members of the joint standing committee of the General 110 Assembly having cognizance of matters concerning the provision of 111 services to the elderly and the Commissioners of Social Services, Public 112 Health, Mental Health and Addiction Services, Mental Retardation, 113 Economic and Community Development and Transportation, the 114 the Labor Commissioner. Insurance Commissioner and

- 115 chairperson of the commission shall be selected by the Governor.
- 116 Members of the commission shall receive no compensation for their
- services, but shall be reimbursed for any necessary expenses incurred
- in the performance of their duties. The Commissioner of Social
- 119 Services shall convene the initial organizational meeting of the
- 120 Commission on Aging on or before September 1, 1993.
- 121 (b) The Commission on Aging shall: (1) Prepare and issue an annual 122 report to [the Governor, General Assembly and the legislative body of 123 each municipality in the state Commissioner on Aging on its findings 124 and recommendations concerning services for the elderly in the state; 125 (2) conduct annual public hearings on issues affecting the well-being of 126 the elderly in the state; [(3) meet at least monthly with the 127 commissioner and the head of the Division of Elderly Services of the 128 Department of Social Services to review and comment on the policies 129 and procedures of the department concerning the elderly; (4) review 130 and comment on the budget of the Division of Elderly Services of the 131 Department of Social Services; (5)] (3) meet as needed with state officials to discuss issues affecting the elderly; [(6)] and (4) conduct 132 133 studies and report on issues affecting the elderly. [; and (7) disseminate 134 information to the business community, education community, state 135 and local governments and the media on the nature and scope of the 136 problems faced by the elderly. The commission may accept any gifts, 137 donations or bequests for any of the purposes of this section.]
  - (c) There shall be an executive director of the Commission on Aging who shall be appointed by the <u>commissioner after consultation with</u> <u>the</u> commission. There may be additional staff within available appropriations. The commission shall be within the Department [of Social Services for administrative purposes only] <u>on Aging</u>.
- Sec. 5. Subsection (a) of section 17b-28 of the general statutes, as amended by public act 99-167, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:
- 146 (a) There is established a council which shall advise the

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194 Sec. 6. Section 17b-421 of the general statutes is repealed and the 195 following is substituted in lieu thereof:

The state shall be divided into five elderly planning and service areas, in accordance with federal law and regulations, each having an area agency on aging to carry out the mandates of the federal Older Americans Act of 1965, as amended. The area agencies shall (1) represent elderly persons within their geographic areas, (2) develop an area plan for approval by the Department of [Social Services] on Aging and upon such approval administer the plan, (3) coordinate and assist local public and nonprofit, private agencies in the development of programs, (4) receive and distribute federal and state funds for such purposes, in accordance with applicable law, (5) carry out any additional duties and functions required by federal law and regulations.

- Sec. 7. Section 17b-422 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:
- 210 (a) The [state Department of Social Services] <u>Department on Aging</u> 211 shall equitably allocate, in accordance with federal law, federal funds 212 received under Title IIIB and IIIC of the Older Americans Act to the

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213 five area agencies on aging established pursuant to section 17b-421, as 214 amended by this act. The department, before seeking federal approval 215 to spend any amount above that allotted for administrative expenses 216 under said act, shall inform the joint standing committee of the 217 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to human

services that it is seeking such approval.

- 219 (b) Sixty per cent of the state funds appropriated to the five area 220 agencies on aging for elderly nutrition and social services shall be 221 allocated in the same proportion as allocations made pursuant to 222 subsection (a) of this section. Forty per cent of all state funds 223 appropriated to the five area agencies on aging for elderly nutrition 224 and social services used for purposes other than the required 225 nonfederal matching funds shall be allocated at the discretion of the 226 [Commissioner of Social services] Commissioner on Aging, in 227 consultation with the area agencies on aging, based on their need for 228 such funds. Any state funds appropriated to the five area agencies on 229 aging for administrative expenses shall be allocated equally.
  - (c) The [state Department of Social Services] Department on Aging in consultation with the five area agencies on aging shall review the method of allocation set forth in subsection (a) and shall report any findings or recommendations to the joint standing committees on appropriations and human services.
- 235 (d) An area agency may request a person participating in the elderly 236 nutrition program to pay a voluntary fee for meals furnished except 237 that no eligible person shall be denied a meal due to an inability to pay 238 such fee.
- 239 Sec. 8. Section 17b-423 of the general statutes is repealed and the 240 following is substituted in lieu thereof:
- 241 (a) [The state Department of Social Services by July 1, 1987,] Not 242 later than January 1, 2001, the Department on Aging shall prepare and 243 routinely update a community services policy manual. The pages of

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244 such manual shall be consecutively numbered and indexed, containing 245 all departmental policy regulations and substantive procedure. Said 246 manual shall be published by the department and distributed so that it 247 is available to all district, subdistrict and field offices of the [state] 248 Department of Social Services and the Department on Aging. The 249 [state Department of Social Services] Department on Aging shall adopt 250 such policy manual in regulation form in accordance with the 251 provisions of chapter 54. The department may operate under any new 252 policy necessary to conform to a requirement of a federal or joint state 253 and federal program. The department may operate under any new 254 policy while it is in the process of adopting the policy in regulation 255 form, provided the [state Department of Social Services] Department 256 on Aging prints notice of intent to adopt the regulations in the 257 Connecticut Law Journal within twenty days after adopting the policy. 258 Such policy shall be valid until the time final regulations are effective.

- (b) The [state Department of Social Services] <u>Department on Aging</u> shall write the community services policy manual using plain language as described in section 42-152. The manual shall include an index for frequent referencing and a separate section or manual which specifies procedures to follow to clarify policy.
- Sec. 9. Section 17b-424 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:
- The Commissioner [of Social Services] on Aging shall establish an adult foster care program which shall provide room, board and personal care services in a home or substantially equivalent environment to elderly persons who volunteer and may otherwise be placed in a nursing home or who are inappropriately institutionalized. The commissioner shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to administer this program.
- Sec. 10. Section 17b-425 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

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The Department [of Social Services] on Aging may make a grant to any city, town or borough or public or private agency, organization or institution for the following purposes: (a) For community planning and coordination of programs carrying out the purposes of the Older Americans Act of 1965, as amended; (b) for demonstration programs or activities particularly valuable in carrying out such purposes; (c) for training of special personnel needed to carry out such programs and activities; (d) for establishment of new or expansion of existing programs to carry out such purposes, including establishment of new or expansion of existing centers of service for elderly persons, providing recreational, cultural and other leisure time activities, and transportation, referral and preretirement informational, postretirement counseling services for elderly persons and assisting such persons in providing volunteer community or civic services, except that no costs of construction, other than for minor alterations and repairs, shall be included in such establishment or expansion; (e) for programs to develop or demonstrate approaches, methods and techniques for achieving or improving coordination of community services for elderly or aging persons and such other programs and services as may be allowed under Title III of the Older Americans Act of 1965, as amended, or to evaluate these approaches, techniques and methods, as well as others which may assist elderly or aging persons to enjoy wholesome and meaningful living and to continue to contribute to the strength and welfare of the state and nation.

Sec. 11. Section 17b-426 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

The Department [of Social Services] on Aging may use moneys appropriated for the purposes of section 17b-425, as amended by this act, for the expenses of administering the grant program under said section, provided the total of such moneys so used shall not exceed five per cent of the moneys so appropriated.

Sec. 12. Subsection (a) of section 17b-427 of the general statutes is

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- repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:
- 308 (a) The Department [of Social Services] on Aging shall establish a
- 309 program to provide assistance to Medicare patients. The program
- shall: (1) Provide for toll-free telephone advice and information on
- 311 Medicare benefits and the Medicare appeals process from a qualified
- 312 attorney or paralegal at least five days per week during normal
- business hours and (2) provide for the preparation and distribution of
- 314 written materials to Medicare patients, their families and senior citizen
- 315 organizations regarding Medicare benefits.
- Sec. 13. Section 4-5 of the general statutes is repealed and the
- 317 following is substituted in lieu thereof:
- As used in sections 4-6, 4-7 and 4-8, the term "department head"
- 319 means Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management,
- 320 Commissioner of Administrative Services, Commissioner on Aging,
- 321 Commissioner of Revenue Services, Commissioner of Banking,
- 322 Commissioner of Children and Families, Commissioner of Consumer
- 323 Protection, Commissioner of Correction, Commissioner of Economic
- 324 and Community Development, State Board of Education,
- 325 Commissioner of Environmental Protection, Commissioner of
- 326 Agriculture, Commissioner of Public Health, Insurance Commissioner,
- 327 Labor Commissioner, Liquor Control Commission, Commissioner of
- 328 Mental Health and Addiction Services, Commissioner of Public Safety,
- 329 Commissioner of Social Services, Commissioner of Mental Retardation,
- 330 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, Commissioner of Transportation,
- 331 Commissioner of Public Works, Commissioner of Veterans' Affairs,
- 332 Commissioner of Health Care Access, Chief Information Officer and
- the chairperson of the Public Utilities Control Authority.
- Sec. 14. Section 4-38c of the general statutes is repealed and the
- 335 following is substituted in lieu thereof:
- There shall be within the executive branch of state government the
- 337 following departments: Office of Policy and Management, Department

- 338 of Administrative Services, Department of Revenue Services,
- 339 Department of Banking, Department of Agriculture, Department of
- 340 Children and Families, Department of Consumer Protection,
- Department of Correction, Department of Economic and Community
- 342 Development, State Board of Education, Department of Environmental
- 343 Protection, Department of Public Health, Board of Governors of
- 344 Higher Education, Insurance Department, Labor Department,
- 345 Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, Department of
- 346 Mental Retardation, Department of Public Safety, Department of Social
- 347 Services, Department of Transportation, Department of Motor
- 348 Vehicles, Department of Veterans' Affairs, Department on Aging,
- 349 Department of Public Works and Department of Public Utility Control.
- Sec. 15. Section 7-127b of the general statutes is repealed and the
- 351 following is substituted in lieu thereof:
- 352 (a) The chief elected official or the chief executive officer if by
- ordinance of each municipality shall appoint a municipal agent for
- 354 elderly persons. Such agent shall be a member of the municipality's
- commission on aging, if any, a member of another agency that serves elderly persons, an elected official of the state or the municipality or a
- 357 responsible resident of the municipality who has demonstrated an
- interest in the elderly or has been involved in programs in the field of
- 359 aging.
- 360 (b) Each municipal agent shall (1) disseminate information to
- 361 elderly persons and assist such persons in learning about the
- 362 community resources available to them and publicize such resources
- and benefits; (2) assist elderly persons in applying for federal and
- other benefits available to such persons; (3) submit written reports at
- 365 least annually to the chief elected official, chief executive officer,
- 366 legislative body and committee or commission on aging of the
- 367 municipality, if any, and to the [state Department of Social Services]
- 368 Department on Aging on the services they have provided, the needs
- and problems of the elderly and any recommendations for municipal

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- (c) Each municipal agent shall serve for a term of two or four years, at the discretion of the appointing authority of each municipality, and may be reappointed. If more than one agent is necessary to carry out the purposes of this section, the appointing authority, in his discretion, may appoint one or more assistant agents. The town clerk in each municipality shall notify the [state Department of Social Services] Department on Aging immediately of the appointment of a new municipal agent. Each municipality may provide to its municipal agent resources sufficient for such agent to perform the duties of the office.
- (d) The [state Department of Social Services] Department on Aging shall be responsible for assuring that the provisions of this section are being carried out by municipalities, and shall adopt and disseminate to municipalities guidelines as to the role and duties of municipal agents and such informational and technical materials to assist such agents in performance of their duties. Said department shall provide training for municipal agents in accordance with their needs and the resources of the department and in cooperation with area agencies on aging. The department shall sponsor at least one training session in each of the planning and service areas of the Department [of Social Services] on Aging. Such training shall include, but not be limited to, information, from updated lists, on the availability of housing. Each municipal agent shall attend at least one such session. Said department shall assist such agents to develop and maintain simple records about the needs of elderly persons and the services provided to them, which records shall be confidential and used only to provide data that is useful to the [state Department of Social Services] Department on Aging and the area agencies on aging in the preparation of the annual state and area plans.
- Sec. 16. Subsection (a) of section 9-19h of the general statutes, as amended by section 39 of public act 99-268, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

(a) The Department [of Social Services] on Aging, the Labor Department and the Department of Motor Vehicles shall make voter registration information and materials available to the public. Such information and materials shall be placed in public areas of the offices of such departments. The State Library and the libraries of the state's public institutions of higher education shall also make such information and materials available to users of the libraries. The Secretary of the State shall provide such departments, such libraries and any libraries open to the public with suitable nonpartisan literature, materials and voter registration application forms authorized under sections 9-23g and 9-23h. The secretary shall also provide to the Department [of Social Services] on Aging, the Labor Department and the Department of Motor Vehicles any furniture needed to display such literature, materials and forms.

Sec. 17. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 10-1831 of the general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

(a) The management of the system shall continue to be vested in the Teachers' Retirement Board, which shall consist of nine members including the Insurance Commissioner, the Commissioner [of Social Services] on Aging and the Commissioner of Education, or their designees, who shall be members of the board, ex officio. On or before June 15, 1983, and quadrennially thereafter, the members of such system shall elect from their number, in a manner to be prescribed by said board, three persons to serve as members of said board for terms of four years beginning July first following such election. If a vacancy occurs in the positions filled by the members of said system who are not retired, said board shall elect a member of the system who is not retired to fill the unexpired portion of the term. If a vacancy occurs in the position filled by the retired member of said system, said board shall elect a retired member of the system to fill the unexpired portion of the term. The Governor shall appoint three public members to said board in accordance with the provisions of section 4-9a. The members of the board shall serve without compensation, but shall be reimbursed

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for any expenditures or loss of salary or wages which they incur through service on the board.

(b) On and after July 1, 1991, the management of the system shall continue to be vested in the Teachers' Retirement Board, which shall consist of twelve members including the Commissioner [of Social Services] on Aging and the Commissioner of Education, or their designees, who shall be members of the board, ex officio. On or before June 15, 1985, and quadrennially thereafter, the members of such system shall elect from their number, in a manner prescribed by said board, two persons to serve as members of said board for terms of four years beginning July first following such election. Both of such persons shall be active teachers who shall be nominated by the members of the system who are not retired and elected by all the members of the system. On or before July 1, 1991, and quadrennially thereafter, the members of such system shall elect from their number, in a manner prescribed by said board, three persons to serve as members of said board for terms of four years beginning July first following such election. Two of such persons shall be retired teachers who shall be nominated by the retired members of the system and elected by all the members of the system and one shall be an active teacher who shall be nominated by the members of the system who are not retired and elected by all the members of the system. If a vacancy occurs in the positions filled by the members of said system who are not retired, said board shall elect a member of the system who is not retired to fill the unexpired portion of the term. If a vacancy occurs in the positions filled by the retired members of said system, said board shall elect a retired member of the system to fill the unexpired portion of the term. The Governor shall appoint five public members to said board in accordance with the provisions of section 4-9a. The members of the board shall serve without compensation, but shall be reimbursed for any expenditures or loss of salary or wages which they incur through service on the board. All decisions of the board shall require the approval of six members of the board or a majority of the members who are present, whichever is greater.

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- Sec. 18. Section 17b-251 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:
- 471 The Department [of Social Services] on Aging shall establish an 472 outreach program to educate consumers as to: (1) The need for long-473 term care; (2) mechanisms for financing such care; (3) the availability 474 of long-term care insurance; and (4) the asset protection provided 475 under sections 17b-252 to 17b-254, inclusive, and 38a-475. The 476 Department [of Social Services] on Aging shall provide public 477 information to assist individuals in choosing appropriate insurance 478 coverage.
- Sec. 19. Subsection (a) of section 17b-792 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:
- (a) The Department [of Social Services] on Aging shall be responsible for the administration of programs which provide nutritionally sound diets to needy elderly persons and for the expansion of such programs when possible. Such programs shall be continued in such a manner as to fully utilize congregate feeding and nutrition education of elderly citizens who qualify for such program.
- Sec. 20. Subsection (a) of section 19a-495 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:
- 489 (a) The Department of Public Health shall, after consultation with 490 the appropriate public and voluntary hospital planning agencies, 491 establish classifications of institutions. It shall, in its Public Health 492 Code, adopt, amend, promulgate and enforce such regulations based 493 upon reasonable standards of health, safety and comfort of patients 494 and demonstrable need for such institutions, with respect to each 495 classification of institutions to be licensed under sections 19a-490 to 496 19a-503, inclusive, after consultation with the Commissioner on Aging, 497 including their special facilities, as will further the accomplishment of 498 the purposes of said sections in promoting safe, humane and adequate 499 care and treatment of individuals in institutions. Said department shall

- adopt such regulations concerning home health care agencies and homemaker-home health aide agencies, as defined in section 19a-490.
- Sec. 21. Section 19a-531 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:
- 504 Any employee of the Department of Public Health, [or] the 505 Department of Social Services or the Department on Aging or any 506 regional ombudsman who gives or causes to be given any advance 507 notice to any nursing home facility, directly or indirectly, that an 508 investigation or inspection is under consideration or is impending or 509 gives any information regarding any complaint submitted pursuant to 510 section 17b-408, or 19a-523 prior to an on-the-scene investigation or 511 inspection of such facility, unless specifically mandated by federal or 512 state regulations to give advance notice, shall be guilty of a class B 513 misdemeanor and may be subject to dismissal, suspension or demotion 514 in accordance with chapter 67.
  - Sec. 22. Subsection (f) of section 22a-256c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:
- (f) The Commissioner of Environmental Protection, in consultation with the Commissioner [of Social Services] on Aging, shall assist senior citizen centers in the establishment of a program for the collection of mercuric oxide batteries. The program shall provide for the safe disposal and recycling of such batteries and shall provide guidelines for containers suitable for the safe collection and disposal of such batteries.
- Sec. 23. Section 38a-475 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:
- The Insurance Department shall only precertify long-term care insurance policies which (1) alert the purchaser to the availability of consumer information and public education provided by the Department [of Social Services] on Aging pursuant to section [17a-307]

530 17b-251, as amended by this act; (2) offer the option of home and 531 community-based services in addition to nursing home care; (3) in all 532 home care plans, include case management services delivered by an 533 access agency approved by the Office of Policy and Management and 534 the Department [of Social Services] on Aging as meeting the 535 requirements for such agency as defined in regulations adopted 536 pursuant to subsection (e) of section 17b-342, which services shall 537 include, but need not be limited to, the development of a 538 comprehensive individualized assessment and care plan and, as 539 needed, the coordination of appropriate services and the monitoring of 540 the delivery of such services; (4) provide inflation protection; (5) 541 provide for the keeping of records and an explanation of benefit 542 reports on insurance payments which count toward Medicaid resource 543 exclusion; and (6) provide the management information and reports 544 necessary to document the extent of Medicaid resource protection 545 offered and to evaluate the Connecticut Partnership for Long-Term 546 Care. No policy shall be precertified if it requires prior hospitalization 547 or a prior stay in a nursing home as a condition of providing benefits. 548 The commissioner may adopt regulations, in accordance with chapter 549 54, to carry out the precertification provisions of this section.

550 Sec. 24. Section 45a-651 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

(a)(1) If no suitable conservator can be found after due diligence and the court finds that the health or welfare of the respondent is in jeopardy, the Commissioner [of Social Services] on Aging shall accept appointment within available appropriations, as conservator of the estate of any respondent sixty years of age or older found incapable under sections 45a-644 to 45a-662, inclusive, of managing his or her affairs, whose liquid assets, excluding burial insurance in an amount up to one thousand five hundred dollars, do not exceed one thousand five hundred dollars at the time of such appointment. (2) If no suitable conservator can be found after due diligence and the court finds that the health or welfare of the respondent is in jeopardy, the

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- 563 Commissioner [of Social Services] on Aging shall accept appointment, 564 within available appropriations, as conservator of the person, of any 565 respondent sixty years of age or older found incapable under said 566 sections of caring for himself or herself, whose liquid assets, excluding 567 burial insurance in an amount up to one thousand five hundred 568 dollars, do not exceed one thousand five hundred dollars at the time of 569 such appointment.
  - (b) The Commissioner [of Social Services] on Aging may delegate any power, duty or function arising from the appointment of such commissioner as either conservator of the estate or of the person respectively, to an employee of the Department [of Social Services] on Aging.
  - (c) When so appointed, such commissioner or his designees shall have all the powers and duties of a conservator as provided in sections 45a-644 to 45a-662, inclusive. The department may contract with any public or private agency or person to assist in the carrying out of the duties as conservator of the estate or the person.
    - (d) During the term of appointment of the Commissioner [of Social Services] on Aging as conservator, if a suitable person or legally qualified person, corporation or municipal or state official is found to replace such commissioner as conservator, such person, corporation or official may be appointed successor conservator subject to the approval of the court of probate.
  - (e) The Commissioner [of Social Services] on Aging shall adopt regulations in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 setting forth the terms and conditions of the acceptance and the termination of appointment as conservator of the estate or person in accordance with this section.
- 591 (f) Subject to the approval of the probate court having jurisdiction, 592 the estate of any person for whom the Commissioner [of Social 593 Services] on Aging has been appointed conservator pursuant to this

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section shall be liable for payment for the cost of service as conservator 595 and, to the extent possible, payment to such commissioner for such service shall be made from the assets of the estate.

- (g) In any proceeding to appoint the Commissioner [of Social Services] on Aging as conservator, the court shall appoint an attorney to represent the person for whom such commissioner has been appointed conservator if such person is without legal representation.
- 601 Sec. 25. Subsection (a) of section 45a-654 of the general statutes is 602 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:
  - (a) Upon written application for appointment of a temporary conservator brought by any person deemed by the court to have sufficient interest in the welfare of the respondent, including but not limited to the spouse or any relative of the respondent, the first selectman, chief executive officer or head of the department of welfare of the town of residence or domicile of any respondent, the Commissioner [of Social Services] on Aging, the board of directors of any charitable organization, as defined in section 21a-190a, or the chief administrative officer of any nonprofit hospital or such officer's designee, the Court of Probate may appoint a temporary conservator, if it finds that: (1) The respondent is incapable of managing his affairs or incapable of caring for himself and (2) irreparable injury to the mental or physical health or financial or legal affairs of the respondent will result if a temporary conservator is not appointed pursuant to this section. The court may, in its discretion, require the temporary conservator to give a probate bond. The temporary conservator shall have charge of the property or of the person of the respondent or both for such period of time or for such specific occasion as the court finds to be necessary, provided a temporary appointment shall not be valid for more than thirty days, unless at any time while the appointment of a temporary conservator is in effect, an application is filed for appointment of a conservator of the person or estate under section 45a-650. The court may extend the appointment of the temporary

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- 626 conservator until the disposition of such application, or for an 627 additional thirty days, whichever occurs first.
- 628 Sec. 26. Section 17b-490 of the general statutes is repealed and the 629 following is substituted in lieu thereof:
- 630 As used in sections 17b-490 to 17b-498, inclusive, as amended by 631 this act:
- 632 (a) "Pharmacy" means a pharmacy licensed under section 20-594 or 633 a pharmacy located in a health care institution, as defined in 634 subsection (a) of section 19a-490, which elects to participate in the 635 program;
- 636 (b) "Prescription drugs" means (1) legend drugs, as defined in 637 section 20-571, (2) any other drugs which by state law or regulation 638 require the prescription of a licensed practitioner for dispensing, 639 except products prescribed for cosmetic purposes as specified in 640 regulations adopted pursuant to section 17b-494, as amended by this 641 act, and on and after September 15, 1991, diet pills, smoking cessation 642 gum, contraceptives, multivitamin combinations, cough preparations 643 and antihistamines, and (3) insulin, insulin syringes and insulin 644 needles:
- 645 (c) "Reasonable cost" means the cost of the prescription drug 646 determined in accordance with the formula adopted by the 647 Commissioner [of Social Services] on Aging in regulations for medical 648 assistance purposes plus a dispensing fee equal to the fee determined 649 by said commissioner for medical assistance purposes;
  - (d) "Resident" means a person legally domiciled within the state for a period of not less than one hundred eighty-three days immediately preceding the date of application for inclusion in the program. Mere seasonal or temporary residences within the state, of whatever duration, shall not constitute domicile;
- 655 (e) "Disabled" means a person over eighteen years of age who is

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- receiving disability payments pursuant to either Title 2 or Title 16 of the Social Security Act of 1935, as amended;
- (f) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner [of Social Services] on Aging;
- (g) "Income" means adjusted gross income as determined for purposes of the federal income tax plus any other income of such person not included in such adjusted gross income minus Medicare Part B premium payments. The amount of any Medicaid payments made on behalf of such person or the spouse of such person shall not constitute income;
- (h) "Program" means the Connecticut Pharmaceutical Assistance Contract to the Elderly and the Disabled Program otherwise known as ConnPACE;
- (i) "Pharmaceutical manufacturer" means any entity holding legal title to or possession of a national drug code number issued by the federal Food and Drug Administration;
- (j) "Average manufacturer price" means the average price paid by a wholesaler to a pharmaceutical manufacturer, after the deduction of any customary prompt payment discounts, for a product distributed for retail sale.
- Sec. 27. Subsection (a) of section 17b-491 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:
- 678 (a) There shall be a "Connecticut Pharmaceutical Assistance 679 Contract to the Elderly and the Disabled Program" which shall be 680 within the Department [of Social Services] on Aging. The program 681 shall consist of payments by the state to pharmacies for the reasonable 682 cost of prescription drugs dispensed to eligible persons minus a 683 copayment charge, effective July 1, 1993, of twelve dollars for each 684 prescription. The pharmacy shall collect the copayment charge from 685 the eligible person at the time of each purchase of prescription drugs,

- 686 and shall not waive, discount or rebate in whole or in part such 687 amount.
- 688 Sec. 28. Subsection (a) of section 17b-492 of the general statutes is 689 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:
- 690 (a) Eligibility for participation in the program shall be limited to any 691 resident (1) who is sixty-five years of age or older or who is disabled, 692 (2) whose annual income, if unmarried, is less than thirteen thousand 693 eight hundred dollars, or whose annual income, if married, when 694 combined with that of his spouse is less than sixteen thousand six 695 hundred dollars, (3) who is not insured under a policy which provides 696 full or partial coverage for prescription drugs once a deductible 697 amount is met, and (4) on and after September 15, 1991, who pays an 698 annual twenty-five-dollar registration fee to the Department [of Social 699 Services on Aging. On January 1, 1998, and annually thereafter, the 700 commissioner shall, by the adoption of regulations in accordance with 701 chapter 54, increase the income limits established under this subsection 702 over those of the previous fiscal year to reflect the annual inflation 703 adjustment in Social Security income, if any. Each such adjustment 704 shall be determined to the nearest one hundred dollars.
- 705 Sec. 29. Subsection (d) of section 17b-492 of the general statutes is 706 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:
- 707 (d) The Commissioner [of Social Services] on Aging may adopt 708 regulations in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 to 709 implement the provisions of subsection (c) of this section. Such 710 regulations may provide for the electronic transmission of relevant coverage information between a pharmacist and the department or 712 between an insurer and the department in order to expedite 713 applications and notice.
- 714 Sec. 30. Section 17b-494 of the general statutes is repealed and the 715 following is substituted in lieu thereof:

716 The Commissioner [of Social Services] on Aging shall adopt 717 regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to 718 establish (1) a system for determining eligibility and disqualification 719 under the program, including provisions for an identification number 720 and a renewable, nontransferable identification card; (2) requirements 721 for the use of the identification number and card by the pharmacy and 722 the eligible person; (3) a system of payments; (4) limitations on the 723 maximum quantity per prescription which shall not exceed a thirty-724 day supply or one hundred twenty oral dosage units whichever is 725 greater; (5) requirements as to records to be kept by the pharmacy, 726 including patient profiles; (6) products prescribed for cosmetic and 727 other purposes which shall not be covered under the program; and (7) 728 such other provisions as are necessary to implement the provisions of 729 sections 17b-490 to 17b-495, inclusive.

- Sec. 31. Section 17b-498 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:
- The Commissioner [of Social Services] on Aging shall undertake an educational outreach program to make known the provisions of the program to the public, with emphasis on reaching the elderly and the disabled in the state through the various local and state-wide agencies and organizations concerned with the elderly and the disabled, and to all pharmacies in the state.
- Sec. 32. Section 17b-520 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:
- 740 As used in sections 17b-520 to 17b-535, inclusive:
- [(a)] (1) "Continuing-care contract" means an agreement pursuant to which a provider undertakes to furnish to a person not related by consanguinity or affinity to the provider, shelter and medical or nursing services or other health-related benefits for the life of a person or for a period in excess of one year, and which requires a present or future transfer of assets or an entrance fee in addition to or instead of

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- 747 periodic charges, and the amount of the assets required to be
- 748 transferred or the entrance fee is equal to or in excess of the amount set
- 749 by the commissioner in regulations adopted pursuant to section 17b-
- 750 533;
- 751 [(b)] (2) "Entrance fee" means the total of any initial or deferred
- 752 transfer to, or for the benefit of, a provider of a sum of money or other
- 753 property made or promised to be made as full or partial consideration
- 754 for acceptance or maintenance of a person as a resident pursuant to a
- 755 continuing-care contract;
- 756 [(c)] (3) "Facility" means the place in which a provider undertakes to
- 757 furnish shelter or care to a person pursuant to a continuing-care
- 758 contract;
- 759 [(d)] (4) "Provider" means any person, corporation, limited liability
- 760 company, business trust, trust, partnership, unincorporated association
- or other legal entity, or any combination of such entities, undertaking
- 762 to furnish shelter and medical or nursing services or other health-
- related benefits pursuant to a continuing-care contract;
- 764 [(e)] (5) "Resident" means any person entitled to receive present or
- future shelter and medical or nursing services or other health-related
- 766 benefits pursuant to a continuing-care contract, provided nothing in
- sections 17b-520 to 17b-535, inclusive, shall affect rights otherwise
- afforded to residents while they are patients in healthcare facilities as
- 769 defined in subsections (a), (b) and (c) of section 19a-490;
- 770 [(f)] (6) "Affiliate of a provider" means any person, corporation,
- 771 limited liability company, business trust, trust, partnership,
- vnincorporated association or other legal entity directly or indirectly
- controlling, controlled by or in common control with a provider;
- 774 [(g)] (7) "Offer" means an offer through either personal, telephone or
- 775 mail contact or other communication directed to or received by a
- person at a location within this state as an inducement, solicitation or

- attempt to encourage a person to enter into a continuing-care contract
- 778 and shall include any paid advertisement published or broadcast
- 779 within this state, except for advertisements in periodicals where more
- 780 than two-thirds of the circulation is outside this state but shall not
- 781 include marketing or feasibility studies;
- [(h)] (8) "Shelter" means a room, apartment, cottage or other living
- area in a facility set aside for the exclusive use of one or more persons
- 784 pursuant to a continuing-care contract;
- 785 [(i)] (9) "Medical or nursing services or other health-related benefits"
- 786 means services or benefits which shall include care in a nursing
- 787 facility, priority admission to a nursing facility, home health care or
- assistance with activities of daily living, to which a resident becomes
- 789 contractually entitled;
- 790 [(j)] (10) "Department" means the Department [of Social Services] on
- 791 Aging;
- 792 [(k)] (11) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner [of Social
- 793 Services] on Aging.
- Sec. 33. Section 17b-550 of the general statutes is repealed and the
- 795 following is substituted in lieu thereof:
- As used in sections 17b-550 to 17b-554, inclusive, as amended by
- 797 this act:
- 798 (1) "Department" means the Department [of Social Services] on
- 799 Aging;
- 800 (2) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner [of Social Services] on
- 801 Aging;
- 802 (3) "Medicare assignment" means acceptance by a health care
- 803 provider of the Medicare-determined reasonable charge as payment in
- 804 full for services rendered to persons enrolled in the Medicare

- 805 insurance program;
- 806 (4) "Income" means adjusted gross income as determined for 807 purposes of the federal income tax plus any other income of such 808 person not subject to federal taxation;
- 809 (5) "Program" means the Connecticut Medicare assignment program 810 otherwise known as CONNMAP;
- 811 (6) "Resident" means a person legally domiciled within the state for 812 a period of not less than one hundred eighty-three days immediately 813 preceding the date of application for inclusion in the program. Mere 814 seasonal or temporary residences within the state, of whatever 815 duration, shall not constitute domicile;
- 816 (7) "Health care provider" means a person who provides care, 817 treatment, service or equipment covered by Medicare Part B under 818 Title XVIII of the Social Security Act, as amended.
- 819 Sec. 34. Subsection (b) of section 17b-552 of the general statutes is 820 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:
- 821 (b) The Commissioner [of Social Services] on Aging shall adopt 822 regulations in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, necessary 823 to administer the program and to determine eligibility in accordance 824 with the provisions of section 17b-551.
- 825 Sec. 35. Section 17b-450 of the general statutes is amended by 826 adding subdivisions (6) and (7) as follows:
- 827 (NEW) (6) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner on Aging.
- 828 (NEW) (7) "Department" means the Department on Aging.
- 829 Sec. 36. Subsection (a) of section 17b-451 of the general statutes, as 830 amended by public act 99-101 and section 15 of public act 99-102, is
- 831 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

- 832 (a) Any physician or surgeon licensed under the provisions of 833 chapter 370, any resident physician or intern in any hospital in this 834 state, whether or not so licensed, any registered nurse, any nursing 835 home administrator, nurse's aide or orderly in a nursing home facility, 836 any person paid for caring for a patient in a nursing home facility, any 837 staff person employed by a nursing home facility, any patients' 838 advocate and any licensed practical nurse, medical examiner, dentist, 839 optometrist, chiropractor, podiatrist, social worker, clergyman, police 840 officer, pharmacist, psychologist or physical therapist, who has 841 reasonable cause to suspect or believe that any elderly person has been 842 abused, neglected, exploited or abandoned, or is in a condition which 843 is the result of such abuse, neglect, exploitation or abandonment, or 844 who is in need of protective services, shall within five calendar days 845 report such information or cause a report to be made in any reasonable 846 manner to the Commissioner [of Social Services] on Aging or to the 847 person or persons designated by the commissioner to receive such 848 reports. Any person required to report under the provisions of this 849 section who fails to make such report shall be fined not more than five 850 hundred dollars.
- Sec. 37. Subsection (b) of section 17b-452 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:
  - (b) The Department [of Social Services] on Aging shall maintain a state-wide registry of the reports received, the evaluation and findings and the actions taken.
- Sec. 38. Section 17b-453 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:
  - (a) If it is determined that an elderly person is in need of protective services, [services shall be initiated,] provided the elderly person consents. If the elderly person fails to consent and the protective services staff of the Department [of Social Services] on Aging has reason to believe that such elderly person is incapable of managing his personal or financial affairs, the protective services staff shall provide

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864 protective services to the extent possible and may apply to Probate 865 Court for the appointment of a conservator of person or estate, as 866 appropriate.

- (b) If the caretaker of an elderly person who has consented to the receipt of reasonable and necessary protective services refuses to allow the provision of such services to such elderly person, the Commissioner [of Social Services] on Aging may petition the Superior Court or the Probate Court for an order enjoining the caretaker from interfering with the provision of protective services to the elderly person. The petition shall allege specific facts sufficient to show that the elderly person is in need of protective services and consents to their provision and that the caretaker refuses to allow the provision of such services. If the judge finds that the elderly person is in need of such services and has been prevented by the caretaker from receiving the same, the judge may issue an order enjoining the caretaker from interfering with the provision of protective services to the elderly person.
- 881 Sec. 39. Section 17b-454 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof: 882
  - Any person, department, agency or commission authorized to carry out the duties enumerated in sections 17b-450 to 17b-461, inclusive, as amended by this act, shall have access to all relevant records, except that records which are confidential to an elderly person shall only be divulged with the written consent of the elderly person or his representative. The authority of the Department [of Social Services] on Aging shall include, but not be limited to, the right to initiate or otherwise take those actions necessary to assure the health, safety and welfare of any elderly person, subject to any specific requirement for individual consent, and the right to authorize the transfer of an elderly person from a nursing home.
- 894 Sec. 40. Section 17b-455 of the general statutes is repealed and the 895 following is substituted in lieu thereof:

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- If an elderly person does not consent to the receipt of reasonable and necessary protective services, or if such person withdraws the consent, such services shall not be provided or continued, except that if the Commissioner [of Social Services] on Aging has reason to believe that such elderly person lacks capacity to consent, he may seek court authorization to provide necessary services, as provided in section 17b-456, as amended by this act.
- 903 Sec. 41. Section 17b-456 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:
  - (a) If the Commissioner [of Social Services] on Aging finds that an elderly person is being abused, neglected, exploited or abandoned and lacks capacity to consent to reasonable and necessary protective services, he may petition the Probate Court for appointment of a conservator of the elderly person pursuant to the provisions of sections 45a-644 to 45a-662, inclusive, as amended by this act, in order to obtain such consent.
  - (b) Such elderly person or the individual, agency or organization designated to be responsible for the personal welfare of the elderly person shall have the right to bring a motion in the cause for review of the Probate Court's determination regarding the elderly person's capacity or an order issued pursuant to sections 17b-450 to 17b-461, inclusive, as amended by this act.
- (c) The Probate Court may appoint, if it deems appropriate, the Commissioner [of Social Services] on Aging to be the conservator of the person of such elderly person.
- (d) In any proceeding in Probate Court pursuant to provisions of sections 17b-450 to 17b-461, inclusive, <u>as amended by this act</u>, the Probate Court shall appoint an attorney to represent the elderly person if he is without other legal representation.
- 925 Sec. 42. Section 17b-457 of the general statutes is repealed and the

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926 following is substituted in lieu thereof:

In performing the duties set forth in sections 17b-450 to 17b-461, inclusive, the Department [of Social Services] on Aging may request the assistance of the staffs and resources of all appropriate state departments, agencies and commissions and local health directors, and may utilize any other public or private agencies, groups or individuals who are appropriate and who may be available.

933 Sec. 43. Section 17b-458 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

Subsequent to the authorization for the provision of reasonable and necessary protective services, the Department [of Social Services] on Aging shall initiate a review of each case within ninety days, to determine whether continuation of, or modification in, the services provided is warranted. A decision to continue the provision of such services should be made in concert with appropriate personnel from other involved state and local groups, agencies and departments, and shall comply with the consent provisions of sections 17b-450 to 17b-461, inclusive, as amended by this act. Reevaluations of each such case shall be made every ninety days thereafter.

Sec. 44. Section 17b-459 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

Concurrent with the implementation of any protective services, an evaluation shall be undertaken by the Department [of Social Services] on Aging, pursuant to regulations which shall be adopted by the Commissioner [of Social Services] on Aging, in accordance with chapter 54, regarding the elderly person's financial capability for paying for the protective services. If the person is so able, procedures for the reimbursement for the costs of providing the needed protective services shall be initiated. If it is determined that the person is not financially capable of paying for such needed services, the services shall be provided in accordance with policies and procedures

- 957 established by the Commissioner [of Social Services] on Aging for the 958 provision of welfare benefits under such circumstances.
- 959 Sec. 45. Section 17b-461 of the general statutes is repealed and the 960 following is substituted in lieu thereof:
- 961 [Regulations shall be promulgated by the Commissioner of Social 962 Services The Commissioner on Aging shall adopt regulations, in 963 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to carry out the 964 provisions of sections 17b-450 to 17b-461, inclusive, as amended by this 965 act.
- 966 Sec. 46. Section 17b-400 of the general statutes, as amended by 967 section 1 of public act 99-176, is repealed and the following is 968 substituted in lieu thereof:
- 969 (a) As used in this chapter:
- 970 (1) "State agency" means the [Division of Elderly Services of the 971 Department of Social Services Department on Aging.
- 972 (2) "Office" means the Office of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman 973 established in this section.
- 974 (3) "State Ombudsman" means the State Ombudsman established in 975 this section.
- 976 (4) "Program" means the long-term care ombudsman program 977 established in this section.
- 978 (5) "Representative" includes a regional ombudsman, a residents' 979 advocate or an employee of the Office of the Long-Term Care 980 Ombudsman who is individually designated by the ombudsman.
- 981 (6) "Resident" means an older individual who resides in or is a 982 patient in a long-term care facility who is sixty years of age or older.
- 983 (7) "Long-term care facility" means any skilled nursing facility, as

- defined in Section 1819(a) of the Social Security Act, (42 USC 1395i-3(a)) any nursing facility, as defined in Section 1919(a) of the Social Security Act, (42 USC 1396r(a)) a board and care facility as defined in Section 102(19) of the federal Older Americans Act, (42 USC 3002(19)) and for purposes of ombudsman program coverage, an institution
- regulated by the state pursuant to Section 1616(e) of the Social Security Act, (42 USC 1382e(e)) and any other adult care home similar to a
- 991 facility or nursing facility or board and care home.
- 992 (8) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner [of Social Services] <u>on</u> 993 <u>Aging</u>.
- 994 [(9) "Director" means the director of the Division of Elderly Services 995 of the Department of Social Services.]
- 996 [(10)] (9) "Applicant" means an older individual who has applied for 997 admission to a long-term care facility.
- 998 (b) There is established an independent Office of the Long-Term 999 Care Ombudsman within the Department [of Social Services] on 1000 Aging. The Commissioner [of Social Services] on Aging shall appoint a 1001 State Ombudsman who shall be selected from among individuals with 1002 expertise and experience in the fields of long-term care and advocacy 1003 to head the office and the State Ombudsman shall appoint assistant 1004 regional ombudsmen. In the event the State Ombudsman or an 1005 assistant regional ombudsman is unable to fulfill the duties of the 1006 office, the commissioner shall appoint an acting State Ombudsman and 1007 the State Ombudsman shall appoint an acting assistant regional 1008 ombudsman.
  - (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (b) of this section, on and after July 1, 1990, the positions of State Ombudsman and regional ombudsmen shall be classified service positions. The State Ombudsman and regional ombudsmen holding said positions on said date shall continue to serve in their positions as if selected through classified service procedures. As vacancies occur in such positions

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- 1015 thereafter, such vacancies shall be filled in accordance with classified 1016 service procedures.
- 1017 Sec. 47. Section 17b-406 of the general statutes, as amended by 1018 section 7 of public act 99-176, is repealed and the following is 1019 substituted in lieu thereof:
- 1020 (a) Residents' advocates, under supervision of the regional 1021 ombudsmen, shall assist the regional ombudsmen in the performance 1022 of all duties and responsibilities of the regional ombudsmen as 1023 described in section 17b-405.
- 1024 (b) All long-term care facilities shall post or cause to be posted in a 1025 conspicuous place therein a list of the names of the appropriate residents' advocates and the names, addresses, and telephone numbers 1027 of the appropriate ombudsmen.
- 1028 (c) The Commissioner [of Social Services] on Aging shall have 1029 authority to seek funding for the purposes contained in this section 1030 from public and private sources, including but not limited to any 1031 federal or state funded programs.
- 1032 Sec. 48. Section 17b-407 of the general statutes, as amended by 1033 section 14 of public act 99-102 and section 8 of public act 99-176, is 1034 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:
- 1035 (a) Any physician or surgeon licensed under the provisions of 1036 chapter 370, any resident physician or intern in any hospital in this 1037 state, whether or not so licensed, and any registered nurse, licensed 1038 practical nurse, medical examiner, dentist, optometrist, chiropractor, 1039 podiatrist, social worker, clergyman, police officer, pharmacist, 1040 physical therapist, long-term care facility administrator, nurse's aide or 1041 orderly in a long-term care facility, any person paid for caring for a 1042 patient in a long-term care facility, any staff person employed by a 1043 long-term care facility and any person who is a sexual assault 1044 counselor or a battered women's counselor as defined in section

52-146k who has reasonable cause to suspect or believe that a resident in a long-term care facility has been abused, neglected, exploited or abandoned, or is in a condition that is the result of such abuse, neglect, exploitation or abandonment, shall within five calendar days report such information or cause a report to be made in any reasonable manner to the Commissioner [of Social Services] on Aging pursuant to chapter 319dd. Any person required to report under the provision of this section who fails to make such report within the prescribed time period shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars.

- (b) Such report shall contain the name and address of the long-term care facility, the name of the involved resident, information regarding the nature and extent of the abuse, neglect, exploitation or abandonment and any other information which the reporter believes might be helpful in an investigation of the case and for the protection of the resident.
- (c) Any other person having reasonable cause to believe that a resident in a long-term care facility is being, or has been, abused, neglected, exploited or abandoned, or any person who wishes to file any other complaint regarding a long-term care facility, shall report such information in accordance with subsection (b) in any reasonable manner to the Commissioner [of Social Services] on Aging who shall inform the resident of the services of the Office of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman.
- (d) Such report or complaint shall not be deemed a public record, and shall not be subject to the provisions of section 1-210. Information derived from such reports or complaints for which reasonable grounds are determined to exist after investigation as provided for in section 17b-408, including the identity of the long-term care facility, the number of complaints received, the number of complaints substantiated and the types of complaints, may be disclosed by the Commissioner [of Social Services] on Aging, except that in no case shall the name of the resident or the complainant be revealed, unless

- such person specifically requests such disclosure or unless a judicial proceeding results from such report or complaint.
- (e) Anyone who makes a report or complaint pursuant to this section or who testifies in any administrative or judicial proceeding arising from the report shall be immune from any civil or criminal liability on account of such report or complaint or testimony, except for liability for perjury, unless such person acted in bad faith or with malicious purpose.
- (f) The person filing a report or complaint pursuant to the provisions of this section shall be notified of the findings of any investigation conducted by the Commissioner [of Social Services] on Aging, upon request.
- 1089 (g) The Commissioner [of Social Services] <u>on Aging</u> shall maintain a 1090 registry of the reports received, the investigations made, the findings 1091 and the actions recommended and taken.
- Sec. 49. Section 17b-411 of the general statutes, as amended by section 12 of public act 99-176, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:
- The Commissioner [of Social Services] on Aging, after consultation with the State Ombudsman, shall adopt regulations in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to carry out the provisions of sections 17b-400 to 17b-412, inclusive, 19a-531 and 19a-532.
- Sec. 50. Section 17b-412 of the general statutes, as amended by section 13 of public act 99-176, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:
- The [director] <u>Commissioner on Aging</u> shall require the State Ombudsman to:
- 1104 (1) Prepare an annual report:

- 1105 (A) Describing the activities carried out by the office in the year for 1106 which the report is prepared;
- 1107 (B) Containing and analyzing the data collected under section 17b-1108 413;
- 1109 (C) Evaluating the problems experienced by and the complaints 1110 made by or on behalf of residents;
- 1111 (D) Containing recommendations for (i) improving the quality of 1112 the care and life of the residents, and (ii) protecting the health, safety, 1113 welfare and rights of the residents;
- 1114 (E) (i) Analyzing the success of the program including success in 1115 providing services to residents of long-term care facilities; and (ii) 1116 identifying barriers that prevent the optimal operation of the program; 1117 and
- 1118 (F) Providing policy, regulatory and legislative recommendations to 1119 solve identified problems, to resolve the complaints, to improve the 1120 quality of the care and life of residents, to protect the health, safety, 1121 welfare and rights of residents and to remove the barriers that prevent 1122 the optimal operation of the program.
  - (2) Analyze, comment on and monitor the development and implementation of federal, state and local laws, regulations and other government policies and actions that pertain to long-term care facilities and services, and to the health, safety, welfare and rights of residents in the state, and recommend any changes in such laws, regulations and policies as the office determines to be appropriate.
- 1129 (3) (A) Provide such information as the office determines to be 1130 necessary to public and private agencies, legislators and other persons, 1131 regarding (i) the problems and concerns of older individuals residing 1132 in long-term care facilities; and (ii) recommendations related to the 1133 problems and concerns; and (B) make available to the public and 1134 submit to the federal assistant secretary for aging, the Governor, the

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- 1135 General Assembly, the Department of Public Health and other
- 1136 appropriate governmental entities, each report prepared under
- 1137 subdivision (1) of this section.
- 1138 Sec. 51. Section 17b-1 of the general statutes is repealed and the
- 1139 following is substituted in lieu thereof:
- 1140 (a) There is established a Department of Social Services. The
- 1141 department head shall be the Commissioner of Social Services, who
- shall be appointed by the Governor in accordance with the provisions
- of sections 4-5 to 4-8, inclusive, with the powers and duties therein
- 1144 prescribed.
- 1145 (b) The Department of Social Services shall constitute a successor
- 1146 department to the Department of Income Maintenance [,] and the
- 1147 Department of Human Resources [and the Department on Aging] in
- accordance with the provisions of sections 4-38d and 4-39.
- (c) Wherever the words "Commissioner of Income Maintenance" [,]
- 1150 or "Commissioner of Human Resources" [or "Commissioner on
- 1151 Aging"] are used in the general statutes, the words "Commissioner of
- 1152 Social Services" shall be substituted in lieu thereof. Wherever the
- 1153 words "Department of Income Maintenance" [,] or "Department of
- Human Resources" [or "Department on Aging"] are used in the general
- statutes, "Department of Social Services" shall be substituted in lieu
- 1156 thereof.
- 1157 (d) Any order or regulation of the Department of Income
- 1158 Maintenance [,] or the Department of Human Resources [or the
- Department on Aging] which is in force on July 1, 1993, shall continue
- in force and effect as an order or regulation of the Department of Social
- 1161 Services until amended, repealed or superseded pursuant to law.
- 1162 Where any order or regulation of said departments conflict, the
- 1163 Commissioner of Social Services may implement policies and
- procedures consistent with the provisions of public act 93-262\* while in
- the process of adopting the policy or procedure in regulation form,

- provided notice of intention to adopt the regulations is printed in the
- 1167 Connecticut Law Journal within twenty days of implementation. The
- policy or procedure shall be valid until the time final regulations are
- 1169 effective.
- 1170 Sec. 52. Section 17b-2 of the general statutes is repealed and the
- following is substituted in lieu thereof:
- 1172 The Department of Social Services is designated as the state agency
- 1173 for the administration of (1) the child care development block grant
- 1174 pursuant to the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990;
- 1175 (2) the Connecticut energy assistance program pursuant to the Low
- 1176 Income Home Energy Assistance Act of 1981; [(3) programs for the
- elderly pursuant to the Older Americans Act; (4)] (3) the state plan for
- 1178 vocational rehabilitation services for the fiscal year ending June 30,
- 1179 1994; [(5)] (4) the refugee assistance program pursuant to the Refugee
- 1180 Act of 1980; [(6)] (5) the legalization impact assistance grant program
- pursuant to the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986; [(7)] (6)
- the temporary assistance for needy families program pursuant to the
- 1183 Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of
- 1184 1996; [(8)] (7) the Medicaid program pursuant to Title XIX of the Social
- Security Act; [(9)] (8) the food stamp program pursuant to the Food
- Stamp Act of 1977; [(10)] (9) the state supplement to the Supplemental
- 1187 Security Income Program pursuant to the Social Security Act; [(11)]
- 1188 (10) the state child support enforcement plan pursuant to Title IV-D of
- the Social Security Act; and [(12)] (11) the state social services plan for
- the implementation of the social services block grants and community
- 1191 services block grants pursuant to the Social Security Act. The
- Department of Social Services is designated a public housing agency
- 1193 for the purpose of administering the Section 8 existing certificate
- program and the housing voucher program pursuant to the Housing
- 1195 Act of 1937.
- 1196 Sec. 53. Section 17b-4 of the general statutes is repealed and the
- following is substituted in lieu thereof:

(a) The Department of Social Services shall plan, develop, administer, operate, evaluate and provide funding for services for individuals and families served by the department who are in need of personal or economic development. In cooperation with other social service agencies and organizations, including community-based agencies, the department shall work to develop and fund prevention, intervention and treatment services for individuals and families. The department shall: (1) Provide appropriate services to individuals and families as needed through direct social work services rendered by the department and contracted services from community-based organizations funded by the department; (2) collect, interpret and publish statistics relating to individuals and families serviced by the department; (3) monitor, evaluate and review any program or service which is developed, operated or funded by the department; (4) supervise the establishment of pilot programs funded by the department in local communities which assist and support individuals and families in personal and economic development; (5) improve the quality of services provided, operated and funded by the department and increase the competency of its staff relative to the provision of effective social services by establishing and supporting ongoing staff development and training; and (6) encourage citizen participation in the development of social service priorities and programs.

[(b) The Department of Social Services shall study continuously the conditions and needs of elderly and aging persons in this state in relation to nutrition, transportation, home-care, housing, income, employment, health, recreation and other matters. It shall be responsible in cooperation with federal, state, local and area planning agencies on aging for the overall planning, development and administration of a comprehensive and integrated social service delivery system for elderly persons and the aged. The department shall: (1) Measure the need for services; (2) survey methods of administration of programs for service delivery; (3) provide for periodic evaluations of social services; (4) maintain technical, information, consultation and referral services in cooperation with

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other state agencies to local and area public and private agencies to the fullest extent possible; (5) develop and coordinate educational outreach programs for the purposes of informing the public and elderly persons of available programs; (6) cooperate in the development of performance standards for licensing of residential and medical facilities with appropriate state agencies; (7) supervise the establishment, in selected areas and local communities of the state, of pilot programs for elderly persons; (8) coordinate with the state Department of Transportation to provide adequate transportation services related to the needs of elderly persons; and (9) cooperate with other state agencies to provide adequate and alternate housing for elderly persons, including congregate housing as defined in section 8-119e.]

[(c)] (b) The Department of Social Services, in conjunction with the Department of Public Health, may adopt regulations in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 to establish requirements with respect to the submission of reports concerning financial solvency and quality of care by nursing homes for the purpose of determining the financial viability of such homes, identifying homes that appear to be experiencing financial distress and examining the underlying reasons for such distress. Such reports shall be submitted to the Nursing Home Financial Advisory Committee established under section 17b-339.

Sec. 54. Section 17b-343 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

The Commissioner of Social Services, after consultation with the Commissioner on Aging, shall establish annually the maximum allowable rate to be paid by said agencies for homemaker services, chore person services, companion services, respite care, meals on wheels, adult day care services, case management and assessment services, transportation, mental health counseling and elderly foster care, except that the maximum allowable rates in effect July 1, 1990, shall remain in effect during the fiscal years ending June 30, 1992, and

1264 June 30, 1993. The Commissioner of Social Services shall prescribe 1265 uniform forms on which agencies providing such services shall report 1266 their costs for such services. Such rates shall be determined on the 1267 basis of a reasonable payment for necessary services rendered. The 1268 maximum allowable rates established by the Commissioner of Social 1269 Services for the Connecticut home-care program for the elderly 1270 established under section 17b-342, shall constitute the rates required 1271 under this section until revised in accordance with this section. The 1272 Commissioner of Social Services shall establish a fee schedule, to be 1273 effective on and after July 1, 1994, for homemaker services, chore 1274 person services, companion services, respite care, meals on wheels, 1275 adult day care services, case management and assessment services, 1276 transportation, mental health counseling and elderly foster care. The 1277 commissioner may annually increase any fee in the fee schedule based 1278 on an increase in the cost of services. Nothing contained in this section 1279 shall authorize a payment by the state to any agency for such services 1280 in excess of the amount charged by such agency for such services to 1281 the general public.

- 1282 Sec. 55. Subsection (h) of section 10a-178 of the general statutes is 1283 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:
- 1284 (h) "Nursing home" means any institution which is or will be 1285 eligible to be licensed as an institution under sections 19a-490 to 19a-1286 503, inclusive, or a facility which (1) provides chronic and convalescent 1287 nursing care, (2) is a rest home with nursing facilities, (3) provides health care facilities for the handicapped, (4) is a home for elderly 1288 1289 persons or physically handicapped or mentally handicapped persons 1290 or (5) is a continuing care facility registered with the Department [of 1291 Social Services on Aging, pursuant to chapter 319f.
- 1292 Sec. 56. Section 4-60i of the general statutes is repealed and the 1293 following is substituted in lieu thereof:
- 1294 The Commissioner of Social Services shall (1) develop, throughout 1295 the Departments of Mental Retardation, Public Health, Correction,

Children and Families and Mental Health and Addiction Services, and 1296 1297 the Department on Aging uniform management information, uniform 1298 statistical information, uniform terminology for similar facilities and 1299 uniform regulations for the licensing of human services facilities, (2) 1300 plan for increased participation of the private sector in the delivery of 1301 human services, (3) provide direction and coordination to federally 1302 funded programs in the human services agencies and recommend 1303 uniform system improvements and reallocation of physical resources 1304 and designation of a single responsibility across human services 1305 agencies lines to eliminate duplication.

Sec. 57. Subsection (c) of section 17b-337 of the general statutes, as amended by section 1 of public act 99-28, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

(c) The Long-Term Care Planning Committee shall consist of: (1) The chairpersons and ranking members of the joint standing and select committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to human services, public health, elderly services and long-term care; (2) the Commissioner of Social Services, or the commissioner's designee; (3) one member of the Office of Policy and Management appointed by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management; (4) one member from the Department of Social Services appointed by the Commissioner of Social Services; (5) one member from the Department of Public Health appointed by the Commissioner of Public Health; (6) one member from the Department of Economic and Community Development appointed by the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development; (7) one member from the Office of Health Care Access appointed by the Commissioner of Health Care Access; (8) one member from the Department of Mental Retardation appointed by the Commissioner of Mental Retardation; (9) one member from the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services appointed by the Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services; [and] (10) one member from the Department of Transportation appointed by the Commissioner of Transportation; and

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- 1329 (11) the Commissioner on Aging, or the Commissioner's designee. The
- 1330 committee shall convene no later than ninety days after June 4, 1998.
- 1331 Any vacancy shall be filled by the appointing authority. The
- 1332 chairperson shall be elected from among the members of the
- 1333 committee. The committee shall seek the advice and participation of
- any person, organization or state or federal agency it deems necessary
- to carry out the provisions of this section.
- Sec. 58. Subsection (a) of section 17b-338 of the general statutes is
- 1337 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:
- 1338 (a) There is established a Long-Term Care Advisory Council which
- 1339 shall consist of the following: (1) The [executive director of the
- 1340 Commission on Aging, or his] Commissioner on Aging or the
- 1341 <u>commissioner's</u> designee; (2) the State Nursing Home Ombudsman, or
- 1342 [his] designee; (3) the president of the Coalition of Presidents of
- 1343 Resident Councils, or [his] designee; (4) the executive director of the
- 1344 Legal Assistance Resource Center of Connecticut, or [his] designee; (5)
- one representative of the Connecticut Chapter of the American
- 1346 Association of Retired Persons, appointed by the president of said
- 1347 chapter; (6) one representative of a bargaining unit for health care employees, appointed by the president of such bargaining unit; (7) the
- employees, appointed by the president of such bargaining unit; (7) the president of the Connecticut Association of Not-For-Profit Providers
- for the Aging, or [his] designee; (8) the president of the Connecticut
- 1351 Association of Health Care Facilities, or [his] designee; and (9) the
- president of the Connecticut Association of Licensed Homes for the
- 1353 Aged, or [his] designee.
- Sec. 59. Section 17b-362a of the general statutes is repealed and the
- 1355 following is substituted in lieu thereof:
- 1356 The Commissioner of Social Services shall establish a pharmacy
- review panel to serve as advisors in the operation of pharmacy benefit
- programs administered by the Department of Social Services or the
- 1359 Department on Aging, including the implementation of any cost-
- 1360 saving initiatives undertaken pursuant to section 17b-362, subsection

- (e) of section 17b-491 and section 17b-363. The panel shall be appointed 1361 1362 by the commissioner to a three-year term and shall be composed of 1363 the Commissioner on Aging or the commissioner's designee, two 1364 representatives of independent pharmacies, two representatives of 1365 representatives of chain pharmacies, two pharmaceutical 1366 manufacturers, one physician specializing in family practice and one 1367 physician specializing in internal medicine or geriatrics. The panel 1368 shall meet at least quarterly with the commissioner or [his] the 1369 commissioner's designee.
- Sec. 60. Section 17b-362 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:
- (a) A prescription for a maintenance drug, as determined by the Commissioner of Social Services, dispensed for the first time to any Medicaid [or ConnPACE] recipient, shall be dispensed in an amount not greater than a ten-day supply.
- (b) Each nursing home which participates in the Medicaid program may request of the dispensing pharmacist that a prescription be dispensed in an amount equal to a five-day supply whenever (1) a drug product is prescribed for the first time for a patient who is a Medicaid recipient or (2) a refill of a prescription is necessary for such a patient and the patient's discharge from the home is imminent.
- Sec. 61. (NEW) A prescription for a maintenance drug, as determined by the Commissioner on Aging, dispensed for the first time to any ConnPACE recipient, shall be dispensed in an amount not greater than a ten-day supply.
- 1386 Sec. 62. This act shall take effect July 1, 2000.

## Statement of Purpose:

To reestablish the Department on Aging.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

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